



2016 JUDICIAL VOTING GUIDE

SELECT GENERAL ELECTION DATES

- ☐ **September 9 (Friday)**
Absentee voting by mail begins.
- ☐ **October 14 (Friday)**
Regular voter registration deadline. Voter registration forms must be postmarked or delivered to your county elections office by 5 p.m. Same-day registration is also available in your county during the one-stop early voting period, beginning October 20 and ending November 5.
- ☐ **October 20 (Thursday)**
Beginning of one-stop early voting period. Voters may participate at any one-stop early voting location in their county of residence. For locations, check with your county elections office (see pages 22-26) or ncsbe.gov.
- ☐ **November 1 (Tuesday)**
Regular deadline to request a mail-in absentee ballot. Requests must be received by your county elections office by this date. County offices are listed on page 22-26. A pull-away Absentee Ballot Request Form is included at the center of this guide.
- ☐ **November 5 (Saturday)**
One-stop early voting and same-day registration ends.

November 8

POLLS OPEN

6:30a.m. - 7:30p.m.

locate your precinct
at ncsbe.gov



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COURT-ORDERED ELECTION LAW CHANGES

On July 29, a federal court of appeals struck down challenged provisions of North Carolina Session Law 2013-381 ("HB-589"). The information below reflects the law in place as of August 15. In the event of any change, we will post updates to ncsbe.gov.

NO PHOTO I.D. REQUIRED TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION

Voters will no longer be required to present photo identification at the polls. Please note: the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) will still require certain first-time voters to present proof of identity if a valid social security number or driver license number was not provided at the time of registration.



REGISTRATION DURING 17-DAY EARLY VOTING PERIOD

Individuals may register and vote at one-stop early voting locations within their county during a 17-day period, beginning October 20 and ending November 5.

OUT-OF-PRECINCT VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

Provisional ballots cast on Election Day outside a voter's assigned precinct but inside the voter's county of residence will count toward all contests in which the voter is eligible to participate. To avoid voting a provisional ballot, voters must appear at their properly assigned precinct on Election Day or at any of their county's one stop early voting locations during the one-stop early voting period.

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Individuals who are at least 16 years old but will not yet be 18 years old on the date of the next election may now preregister to vote by submitting a registration application form. A downloadable form is available at NCSBE.gov.

VOTING OPTIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina offers a number of ways for voters to participate in the process. We encourage you to review your schedule and select the option that works best.

MAIL-IN ABSENTEE

Any registered voter or the voter's near-relative may submit an Absentee Ballot Request form (centerfold). Civilian absentee ballots must arrive at the county elections office by Election Day at 5:00 p.m. Ballots postmarked on or before Election Day are accepted until November 14 at 5 p.m. The U.S. Postal Service does not consistently postmark ballot return envelopes, so please allow ample time for delivery. For additional details regarding absentee voting. Including special deadlines applicable for military and overseas voters, visit goo.gl/lzz5XE.

ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING

Individuals may register and vote at any one-stop early voting location in their county, beginning October 20 and ending November 5. For locations and hours, please contact your county elections office or visit goo.gl/T9e7Xv.

ELECTION DAY

Polls will open November 8 at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. (those in line at this time will be permitted to vote). Each voter is assigned a precinct polling location. To locate your precinct, contact your county elections office or visit: goo.gl/ksTM2N.

NOTE: ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE LIVING IN CARE FACILITIES

Upon request, county elections offices now provide Multi-partisan Assistance Teams (MATs) to assist persons living in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and other care facilities in voting absentee. MATs are available to residents who need assistance, but have no near relative or guardian available. Care facilities may arrange for MATs visits by contacting the board of elections office in their county.

CANDIDATE CONTESTS IN THIS GUIDE

The name of each candidate to the N.C. Supreme Court and N.C. Court of Appeals is provided below, along with the page number for that candidate's information and statement within this guide.

SUPREME COURT

(VOTE FOR ONE)

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Robert Edmundspage 6

COURT OF APPEALS

(VOTE FOR ONE)

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Linda Stephens (D)pg 8

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Valerie Zachary (R).....pg 13

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(VOTE FOR ONE)

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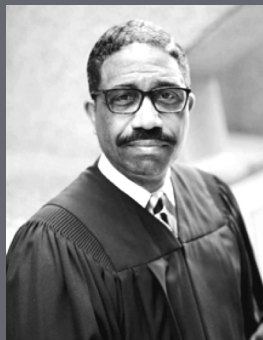
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ABOUT THE APPELLATE COURTS

The N.C. Supreme Court is the State’s highest court. One chief justice and six associate justices review cases from the N.C. Court of Appeals, the N.C. Business Court, and cases in which the death penalty has been imposed. In limited cases involving federal law, the U.S. Supreme Court may hear appeals from this Court.

The N.C. Court of Appeals reviews cases first decided in the superior and district courts, as well as appeals from administrative agencies. Fifteen judges sit on rotating panels of three, considering errors in legal procedures or in judicial interpretation of the law. If a panel is divided (2-1), the losing party has an automatic right to appeal to the N.C. Supreme Court.



Michael R. Morgan

Place of residence: Raleigh

Education: JD with honors, NC Central University School of Law, 1979; BA, History and Sociology, Duke University, 1976

Occupation: Superior Court Judge

Employer: State of North Carolina, Administrative Office of the Courts

Date admitted to the bar: 1980

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Superior Court Judge, 2005-Present
- District Court Judge, 1994-2004
- State Administrative Law Judge, 1989-1994
- Staff attorney, NC Department of Justice, 1980-1989
- Research Assistant, NC Department of Justice, 1979-1980

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

I am proud to run for the position of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court on the strength of the diversity of my professional, teaching and community background which has eminently prepared me with the wealth of experience which this judicial office inherently requires. With more than 26 years of current judicial service, 24 years of current teaching tenure at The National Judicial College instructing other judges and a long record of community involvement and uplift, I have a unique preparation in the ability to legally analyze, assiduously study yet humanely understand the challenges of society with which the Supreme Court is presented. As a Supreme Court Justice, I shall continue my judicial and personal commitment to promote and preserve fairness, impartiality and justice for all in North Carolina's court system.

Please visit my website at www.judgemichaelmorgan.com for more information about my credentials and this campaign. I humbly ask for your vote and support, and thank you for your consideration.



Robert Edmunds

Place of residence: Greensboro

Education: AB, Vassar College; JD, UNC-CH; LLM, UVA

Occupation: Senior Associate Justice

Employer: Supreme Court of North Carolina

Date admitted to the bar: 1975

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Assistant District Attorney
- Assistant United States Attorney
- United States Attorney, Middle District of North Carolina
- Partner, Stern & Klepfer
- Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals
- Justice, Supreme Court of North Carolina

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

As the only candidate with experience on the Supreme Court, my record is an open book. The opinions I have written are available at www.nccourts.org. These opinions demonstrate impartiality, respect for our state and Federal constitutions, and dedication to the rule of law. As a result, I enjoy bipartisan support of most of North Carolina's leading lawyers, including four former Chief Justices, former presidents of the North Carolina State Bar and North Carolina Bar Association, and almost all of North Carolina's elected sheriffs.

The best guide to my qualifications is the judgment of those who have observed my work. In 2006, United States Chief Justice Rehnquist asked me to be the only state judge on the Federal Criminal Rules Committee. Chief Justice Roberts later reappointed me to that committee. Other judges selected me to chair the 2015 Appellate Judges Education Institute and to co-edit the American Bar Association's Judges Journal. I will become Chair-elect of the American Bar Association's Appellate Judges Conference this August. I did not seek any of these positions. My peers asked me to undertake them.

I would greatly appreciate your support. For additional details, please visit my web page, www.JusticeEdmunds.com.



Republican

Phil Berger, Jr.

Place of residence: Hillsborough, NC

Education: Wake Forest University School of Law, 1999; UNC Wilmington, BA, History, 1994.

Occupation: Administrative Law Judge

Employer: State of North Carolina

Date admitted to the bar: 1999

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Administrative Law Judge, 2015 - present
- District Attorney, 2007-2014
- Private Practice, 1999-2006

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Are you concerned about the news coming from the justice system? Do you believe decisions made in our courtrooms reflect your values and beliefs?

As I travel across North Carolina, citizens have told me that they want judges who respect the law and our traditions, have common sense, and don't legislate from the bench.

As District Attorney, I was tough but fair in pursuing justice. My office made the community a safer place to live, work, and raise a family.

As an administrative law judge, I have fairly and impartially applied our laws and regulations in cases affecting our schools, our neighbors, and the business community. As your judge on the Court of Appeals, I promise you:

- I will be fair and consistent,
- I will use common sense and follow the law,
- I will hold people accountable, and
- I will not legislate from the bench.

If you want a judge who believes in the Constitution, stands for the rule of law, and is firmly grounded in North Carolina values, please visit my website at philbergerjr.org.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your vote.

**Democrat**

Linda Stephens

Place of residence: Wake County**Education:** BA Journalism and English, magna cum laude, University of South Carolina, 1973; JD UNC Chapel Hill, 1979**Occupation:** Associate Judge, NC Court of Appeals**Employer:** State of North Carolina, NC Court of Appeals**Date admitted to the bar:** 1979**Legal/Judicial experience:**

- Associate judge, NC Court of Appeals, 2006 – present
- Partner, Teague, Campbell, Dennis & Gorham, LLP, 1984-2006
- Deputy Commissioner, NC Industrial Commission, 1980-1984
- Law Clerk, NC Court of Appeals, 1979-1980

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

My grandparents, who raised me, worked hard all their lives in the mills and fields. They couldn't give me much, but they made sure I graduated high school – the first in my family. They instilled in me the work ethic that I relied on to work my way through law school and serve my clients for 27 years, and that I have relied on during my 10 years on the Court of Appeals.

On the bench, I have earned a reputation for working hard, judging fairly, and treating everyone with respect. Former appellate judges from both parties are supporting my re-election because they know from experience that politics has no place in the courtroom.

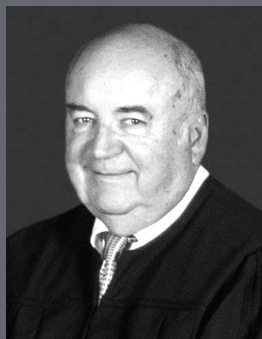
Lawyer organizations representing opposite sides presented me with their highest awards: the Outstanding Appellate Judge Award, and the Elster Award for Professional Excellence. I also received the 2013 Woman of Justice Award. I apply the law as written – not based on any agenda or favoritism.

Law enforcement and citizens' groups endorsed me. I ask for your vote if you believe I have earned it. Visit:

www.JudgeLindaStephens.org

[Facebook.com/JudgeLindaStephens](https://www.facebook.com/JudgeLindaStephens)

[Twitter@Vote4Stephens](https://twitter.com/Vote4Stephens)

**Republican**

Bob Hunter

Place of residence: Morehead City**Education:** Greensboro Page High School, 1965; University of North Carolina, B.A. Degree in History, 1969, and J.D. in Law, 1973; Duke University School of Law, LL.M. degree in Judicial Studies, 2014.**Occupation:** Judge, NC Court of Appeals**Employer:** State of North Carolina, NC Court of Appeals**Date admitted to the bar:** 1973

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 2014
- Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2009-2014, currently serving since 2015.
- Private practice of law, 1975-2008
- NC Deputy Attorney General 1974
- Chairman State Board of Elections
- FINRA Arbitrator, Certified Mediator,
- NCAJ Appellate Judge of the Year, 2011;
- 2012 McNeill Smith Constitutional Law Award.
- Adjunct law professor at Elon, Wake Forest, and North Carolina Central Law Schools.
- Admitted to practice before all federal and state courts in North Carolina, the 4th Circuit and the U. S. Supreme Court

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

After a lifetime in private practice, the voters of North Carolina gave me the opportunity to serve them in the appellate division. Since joining the court I have heard over 1,000 appeals. I work hard to bring my experience and pragmatic approach to answer complex legal questions with fair, common sense solutions which can be applied by practicing attorneys. My decisions are impartial without favoritism to any person or the State.

I would appreciate your vote. For information about my family, faith and personal life go to bobhunterforjudge.com.

**Democrat**

Abe Jones

Place of residence: Raleigh

Education: Harvard Law School (JD),
Harvard College

Occupation: Attorney and Adjunct
Law Professor

Employer: UNC School of Law; and
self-employed

Date admitted to the bar: 1977

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Superior Court Judge (North Carolina Superior Court, 10th Judicial District)
- Associate (Adams, McCullough & Beard)
- Administrative Law Judge (North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings)
- Associate Attorney General (North Carolina Department of Justice)
- Associate (Kirby, Gillick, Schwartz and Tuohey)
- Assistant United States Attorney (United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina)
- Circuit Court Clerk (United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia)
- Law Clerk to Chief Judge William B. Bryant, Jr. (United States District Court for the District of Columbia)

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

I am honored to run for the Court of Appeals in my native state of North Carolina. While there is an abundance of legal talent in our state, I believe it would be difficult to find a candidate with the extent of my experience and the breadth of my perspective. Before the bench, I have served as both a prosecutor and defense attorney in criminal cases. I have also represented both plaintiffs and defendants in civil cases. Behind the bench, I had the pleasure of presiding over many cases for 17 years as a superior court judge. These multi-angled perspectives give me the uniquely balanced, practical skills that are necessary to fulfill the duties of an appeals court judge. Fairness, honesty, intellectual capacity, a working knowledge of the law, and a strong work ethic are qualities that I value and possess. I would greatly appreciate your vote.



Richard Dietz

Place of residence: Winston-Salem

Education: J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law, B.S.B.A., Shippensburg University, 2002

Occupation: Judge, NC Court of Appeals

Employer: State of North Carolina, NC Court of Appeals

Republican

Date admitted to the bar: 2002

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Judge, NC Court of Appeals
- Constitutional law & business law attorney, Kikpatrick Townsend & Stockton

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

I ask for your support to keep my seat on the Court of Appeals this November.

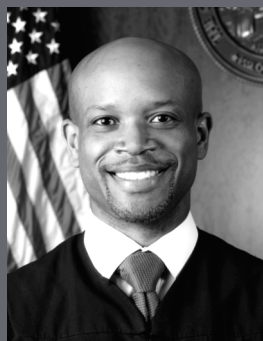
Unlike many judges, I don't come from a family of lawyers. I grew up in a small town and was the first in my family to attend college. Through hard work, I went on to graduate first in my class at Wake Forest law school. I later joined one of North Carolina's largest law firms and became one of the best known appeals lawyers in the State. I focused on constitutional law and business law—two areas where most Court of Appeals candidates have no expertise.

Here are some of the reasons I should keep my seat:

- I have personally argued in the U.S. Supreme Court – something no other appellate judge or candidate has done.
- I have been ranked as one of NC's "Super Lawyers" and "Legal Elite."
- I am the only board certified specialist in appeals on the 15 member Court of Appeals.

Finally, I spent years as a practicing lawyer representing real people with real legal problems. I understand the struggles people face in our court system. I ask for your vote because the Court of Appeals needs judges like me, who have actual experience defending your rights.

www.DietzforCourt.com

**Democrat**

Vince Rozier

Place of residence: Raleigh

Education: North Carolina Central University School of Law; UNC Chapel Hill; Tar Heel High School (Valedictorian)

Occupation: Wake County District Court Judge (10 years)

- Certified as Juvenile and Family Court Judge
- Felony Drugs and Property Crimes
- Driving While Impaired
- Domestic Violence
- Adult Drug Treatment Court

Employer: Citizens of Wake County and North Carolina

Date admitted to the bar: 2001

Legal/Judicial experience:

- Prosecutor (2001-2006)
- Nearly 70 jury trials (ranging in severity from minor traffic violations to murder)
- Ombudsman to the NC State Bureau of Investigation

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

As the son of an Air Force Veteran and an elementary school teacher, I understand service. As a former prosecutor who worked alongside law enforcement officers, I understand service. I have been honored to serve as a judge in Wake County for 10 years. Each day that I serve, I endeavor to make fair decisions based upon the Constitution and NC law. I have also served my community:

- Wake Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Teen Court
- SAFEchild Child Abuse Prevention
- Passage Home & PLM Families Together (for homeless families)
- Sunday School teacher

I have presided over thousands of cases. I understand how court decisions directly affect individuals, businesses and communities. I will bring both judicial experience and prosecutorial experience to the NC Court of Appeals. These are experiences that only three of the currently sitting judges possessed prior to becoming an appellate judge. This experience matters.

I hope to take my experience as a fair and impartial judge to your Court of Appeals.

I humbly ask for your vote www.judgerozier.com.



Valerie Zachary

Place of residence: Yadkinville, NC

Education: Harvard Law School, JD cum laude, 1987; Michigan State University, BA with honors, 1984

Occupation: Judge, NC Court of Appeals

Employer: State of North Carolina, NC Court of Appeals

Republican

Date admitted to the bar: 1988 NC, 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, Western District of NC; 1992 Middle District of NC; 1993 U. S. Tax Court

Legal/Judicial experience:

- 2015 – present: Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals
- 1989 – 2015: general practice, Yadkinville, NC
- 1987 – 1989: Kennedy, Covington, Lobdell & Hickman (now K&L Gates), Charlotte, NC
- 1986 – 1987: Professor Laurence H. Tribe – assist in research and writing of American Constitutional Law, 2nd edition

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Our State is best served by having judges with a diversity of professional backgrounds and experiences. Upon joining the Court of Appeals, I quickly noticed that the types of cases were very similar to those encountered in a general practice. For over 25 years, I practiced law with my husband in Yadkin County. As a result, I understand the issues impacting North Carolina's residents and small business owners. At the Court, I bring a different judicial perspective to cases that I review. I have authored about 85 opinions, which you may review at nccourts.org.

In addition, legislatures, not judges, should make the laws. Appellate judges should decide each case with impartiality and fairness.

I enjoy bipartisan support and have been endorsed by former Justice Bob Orr, former Chief Judge John Martin and many other accomplished jurists.

It is my privilege to serve on the Court of Appeals. Please refer to my website: JudgeZachary.com. I would appreciate your vote.



Democrat

Rickye McKoy-Mitchell

Place of residence: Charlotte, Mecklenburg County – State of North Carolina

Education: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law Juris Doctorate (1984); University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Bachelor of Arts Degree – (1981)

Occupation: District Court Judge

Employer: State of North Carolina

Date admitted to the bar: 1984

Legal/Judicial experience:

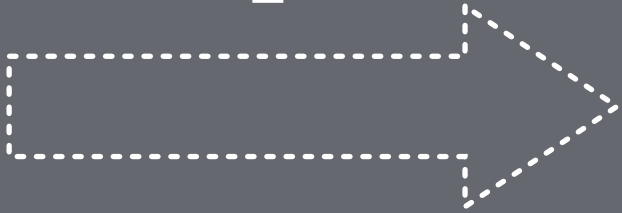
- 1998 – Present: District Court Judge (26th Judicial District, Mecklenburg County)
- 1994 – 1998: Assistant District Attorney (26th Prosecutorial District – Mecklenburg County)
- 1988 – 1994: Senior Trial Attorney, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- 1986 – 1988: Attorney Advisor, Office of Hearings and Appeals for the Social Security Administration
- 1984 – 1986: Reginald Heber Smith Fellow/Trial Attorney, Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

North Carolina deserves an appellate court judge who is experienced, fair, committed and respected by peers and community. I believe an appellate court judge must see “faces and not just cases” because of the broad impact of these decisions. Having 14 years of prior State and Federal Court criminal and civil legal experience and 18 years of judicial experience presiding over thousands of cases in every facet of district court (32 years total) distinguish my qualifications to render decisions in these same types of cases at the appellate level. I train judges at every level and am highly rated by lawyers and judges alike for my legal ability, integrity, judicial demeanor, leadership and community services as also recognized by my receipt of the Distinguished UNC Law Alumnus Award and North Carolina Bar Association Citizen Lawyer Award. I need your vote November 8, 2016.

STATE ABSENTEE REQUEST FORM

RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY ELECTIONS
OFFICE TO RECEIVE AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL.



TO REMOVE THE FORM, PULL CENTERFOLD GENTLY FROM THE BINDING



State Absentee Ballot Request Form

North Carolina

NC STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
P. O. BOX 27255
RALEIGH, NC 27611-7255

PHONE: 1-866-522-4723 FAX: 919-715-0135
elections.sboe@ncsbe.gov

FRAUDULENTLY OR FALSELY COMPLETING THIS FORM IS A CLASS I FELONY UNDER CHAPTER 163 OF THE NC GENERAL STATUTES.

I am requesting an absentee ballot for the: _____ on _____
Election Type (Primary, General, Municipal, Special, etc.) Election Date

Voter Information

Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	Suffix	Date of Birth
Home Address (NC Residential Address.)				Mailing Address (If different than home address.)		
City	State	Zip Code	City	State	Zip Code	
Have you lived at this address for more than 30 days? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			County of Residence		Previous Name (if applicable)	
If "No," indicate the date of your move: ____/____/____						
You must provide at least one identification number below. (or see instructions) NC License or ID Number			Voter Registration No. Optional		Phone (optional)	
SSN X X X - X X - _____					Email (optional)	

Absentee Voting Information

Absentee Mailing Address (Where should the ballot be mailed?)		City	State	Zip Code
If voter is registered as <i>Unaffiliated</i> and requesting a ballot for a partisan primary, choose a primary ballot preference. <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Non-partisan				
If voter is a patient in a hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home, please indicate whether you will need assistance in marking your ballot. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
If "Yes," what is the name and address of the hospital or facility:				
If requesting an absentee ballot on behalf of a near relative, list your name, address, contact information and relationship to the voter:				
Requestor's Name		<input type="checkbox"/> spouse <input type="checkbox"/> brother/sister <input type="checkbox"/> parent <input type="checkbox"/> grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> stepparent		
(First) (Middle) (Last) (Suffix)		<input type="checkbox"/> child <input type="checkbox"/> grandchild <input type="checkbox"/> stepchild <input type="checkbox"/> mother-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> father-in-law		
		<input type="checkbox"/> son-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> daughter-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> legal guardian		
Requestor's Address		Name of Corporation (If appointed legal guardian)		
City	State	Zip Code	Requestor's Phone	Requestor's Email

For Military/Overseas Citizens Only (may only be signed by the voter; may not be signed by a near relative/guardian)

Select one of the options below to qualify as a military or overseas voter: <input type="checkbox"/> Member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty and currently <u>absent</u> from county of residence <u>or</u> an eligible spouse/dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S. temporarily or indefinitely		Transmit my ballot by: (Military/Overseas Voters Only) <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email	
Current Address (Address where you are currently stationed or living overseas.)		Fax Number or Email Address	

Signature of Voter (voter only)

Signature of Near Relative/Guardian (if applicable)

X

X

Date

Date

Visit www.NCSBE.gov to check your voter registration or absentee voting status.

ABSENTEE REQUEST FORM INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

A person must be a registered voter in his or her North Carolina county of residence in order to request an absentee ballot. If not registered to vote in the proper county a person must submit a voter registration application along with this form. Voter registration applications are available online at www.ncsbe.gov.

The deadline to register to vote is 25 days prior to the date of the election, which is October 14.

COMPLETING THE FORM

The voter's full name, residential address, date of birth and an identification number (see **Proof of Identification** below) must be provided on this form. This information will be used to confirm your voter registration. In addition, this form must be signed by the voter or the voter's near relative or qualified legal guardian.

WHO MAY MAKE A REQUEST FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

Either the voter or the voter's near relative or qualified legal guardian may request an absentee ballot. A "near relative" is defined as the voter's spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild.

WHO MAY NOT MAKE A REQUEST FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

If a registered voter is a patient in any hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this state, it is unlawful for any owner, manager, director, employee, or other person, other than the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian, to request an absentee ballot on behalf of the voter. The voter's county board of elections should be contacted if a voter in a hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this State needs assistance requesting or voting an absentee ballot.

UPDATING VOTER INFORMATION

This form may also serve as a voter change form; however, changes in voter registration may only be made by the voter.

PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION

If the voter's identification number (NC driver license number, NC DMV-issued identification card number, or last four digits of social security number) is not provided, then a copy of one of the following must be provided along with this request:

- A current and valid photo identification; OR
- A document that shows the name and residential address of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

BALLOT AVAILABILITY

Absentee balloting materials are mailed to voters once ballots for an election are available. For most elections, ballots will be available 50 days prior to the date of the election. Absentee ballots are available 60 days prior to the date of a statewide general election and 30 days prior to the date of a city or municipal election.

SUBMITTING THE FORM

Submit this form to the voter's county board of elections (addresses provided on the back of the form) no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the date of the election (November 1). This form may be mailed, faxed, emailed, or delivered in person. Visit ncsbe.gov for the contact information for all county boards of elections. The status of your absentee request may also be checked on this website.



Republican

Hunter Murphy

Place of residence: Waynesville

Education: UNC-Chapel Hill, BA, Economics and Religious Studies; University of the Pacific, JD

Occupation: Attorney

Employer: Hunter Murphy Law, PC

Date admitted to the bar: 2006

Legal/Judicial experience:

I have practiced law in the mountains of North Carolina my entire career. I spend my days helping real people. As a small town attorney, I represent clients in all facets of civil litigation, estate administration, and criminal accusations. I won my first case before the Court of Appeals after only seven months of practicing law.

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

My wife, Kellie, and I are the proud parents of six-year-old twins, Brayden and Eden, and are members of Pinnacle Church in Canton.

Our Court's greatest strength is the public's trust. To maintain this trust, judges must stand up for our rights recognized by the United States Constitution and the North Carolina Constitution. Judges are elected to honestly, fairly and impartially decide each case on its own merits. However, these are not the only responsibilities of an appellate judge. Due Process requires that the law be applied to all people equally whether they are in court in Albemarle, Bryson City, Charlotte, Durham or Edenton. To meet this obligation, an appellate judge must ensure that his or her opinions are written with clarity and legal reasoning that can be applied in a consistent manner. I am ready to accept this responsibility and humbly ask for your vote.

You can learn more about me, the cases I have handled at the Court of Appeals, and those who support my candidacy at:

www.HunterMurphyForJudge.com or
www.facebook.com/HunterMurphyforJudge/



Democrat

Margaret Eagles

Place of residence: Raleigh

Education: JD with honors, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, Campbell University; BA, Wake Forest University

Occupation: District Court Judge

Employer: State of North Carolina

Date admitted to the bar: 2000

Legal/Judicial experience:

- District Court Judge, 10th Judicial District
- Attorney, Larcade and Heiskell, PLLC – Civil practice in District and Superior Court
- Assistant Attorney General, NC Department of Justice – Environmental and Appellate practice
- Judicial Research Assistant for Justice George Wainwright, NC Supreme Court

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Throughout my judicial career I have dedicated myself to the rule of law, remained steadfast in my respect for the public trust, and been totally committed to impartiality to all who appear before me, and I will continue to do so on the Court of Appeals.

I am the only candidate for this seat with judicial experience having served on the District Court bench in the 10th Judicial District since 2009 presiding in criminal, civil and juvenile courtrooms. I received my judicial juvenile certification while presiding in the Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Courtroom and am currently the lead Domestic Violence Judge, presiding in the criminal and civil Domestic Violence Courtrooms.

I am co-chair of the Wake County Domestic Violence Task Force and serve on the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team as well as a member of various civic and professional organizations.

I am excited about this opportunity to continue to serve the people of North Carolina on its second highest court and am honored and humbled that many former justices and judges have endorsed my candidacy. I ask you for your support and vote.

Please visit: www.eaglesforjudge.com



Unaffiliated

Donald Buie

Place of residence: Greensboro, NC

Education: 1981, Juris Doctor, North Carolina Central University; 1978, Bachelor of Arts, Elon College; 1976

Occupation: Attorney at Law

Employer: Self-employed

Date admitted to the bar: 1981

Legal/Judicial experience:

- 1998 – Present: Sole practitioner
- 1992 – 1997: Partner, Buie & Thompkins
- 1987 – 1992: Sole practitioner
- 1982 – 1987: Associate, Billy D. Friende, Jr.
- 1981 – 1982: Associate, Beaty & Friende

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

I have had the privilege of practicing law in North Carolina for 35 years. I have represented all types of clients and in many different types of cases, Criminal, Civil, Domestic, Juvenile, Wills & Estates, Special Proceedings, Bankruptcy, Etc. I have handled cases on every level of the state court system. In every case that I have handled, whether in the North Carolina Supreme Court or in Small Claims Court, every client has wanted and expected a fair, honest and impartial resolution of their case.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to be a candidate for the North Carolina Court of Appeals. I believe my wide range of experience as a practicing attorney uniquely qualifies me for this position. Having experience in the preparation and presentation of cases at the trial court levels naturally gives me a better understanding when reviewing at the appellate level.

The Court system in North Carolina has a rich tradition of providing its citizens with fair, honest and impartial access to justice. I will do everything I can to make sure that North Carolina's tradition of quality access to justice continues.

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ABOUT THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The State Board of Elections is the agency charged with overall responsibility for the administration of elections and enforcement of campaign finance requirements in North Carolina. The Board itself is composed of members nominated by the state's Republican Party and Democratic Party and appointed by the Governor for four-year terms.

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PRODUCTION OF THIS GUIDE

No general tax dollars were spent producing this guide. Rather, the N.C. Public Campaign Fund (repealed in 2013) will continue to support production of the guide until remaining funds are exhausted. The State Board ships this guide to every residential address as a resource for voters regarding candidates to the State's appellate courts. Candidates' information and statements are printed without editing or fact-checking by the agency, and the order in which candidates appear mirrors that of the general election ballot: Supreme Court candidates appear as ordered by a random drawing process that occurred in December, while Court of Appeals candidates appear according to partisan affiliation pursuant to S.L. 2015-292. These contests are not partisan elections.